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To:

BERNASCONI, Jean  
Cabinet LAVOIX  
2, Place d'Estienne d'Orves  
F-75441 PARIS  
France

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Cabinet LAVOIX

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Applicant USINOR et al	

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<u>Priority date</u>	<u>Priority application No.</u>	<u>Country or regional Office or PCT receiving Office</u>	<u>Date of receipt of priority document</u>
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The International Bureau of WIPO  
34, chemin des Colombettes  
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Facsimile No. (41-22) 338.70.60

Authorized officer

P. Pouvreau

Telephone No. (41-22) 338 9546

**AMENDED CLAIMS**

[received by the International Bureau on 25 October 2004 (25.10.2004);  
original claims 1 and 21 amended; remaining claims unchanged (3 pages)]

1. A metal laminate comprising between two outer metal sheets an  
adhesive polymer layer, characterised in that the adhesive polymer  
layer comprises cross-linked polyethylene or a copolymer thereof, co-  
grafted with a silane compound and with an unsaturated carboxylic  
acid and/or a derivative thereof.
2. Metal laminate according to claim 1, wherein the surface of the first  
outer metal sheet is greater than the surface of the second outer metal  
sheet.
3. Metal laminate according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the outer metal  
sheets are made of steel or aluminium.
4. Metal laminate according to any of claim 1 to 3, wherein the adhesive  
polymer layer comprises more than 50 % in weight of cross-linked  
grafted polyethylene.
5. Metal laminate according to claim 4, wherein the adhesive polymer  
layer comprises 80 to 95 % in weight of cross-linked grafted  
polyethylene.
6. Metal laminate according to any of claims 1 to 5, wherein the cross-  
linked polyethylene is grafted with an unsaturated carboxylic acid  
containing 1 to 6 carboxylic groups and/or a derivative thereof.
7. Metal laminate according to claim 6, wherein the cross-linked  
polyethylene is grafted with maleic acid and/or a derivative thereof.

8. Metal laminate according to claim 7, wherein the cross-linked polyethylene is grafted with maleic acid anhydride.

5 9. Metal laminate according to any of claims 1 to 8, wherein the adhesive polymer layer comprises 0 to 80 % in weight of high-density polyethylene.

10 10. Metal laminate according to claim 9, wherein the adhesive polymer layer comprises 50 to 80 % in weight of high-density polyethylene.

11. Metal laminate according to any of claims 1 to 10, wherein the adhesive polymer layer comprises 20 to 95 % in weight of elastomer.

15 12. Metal laminate according to claim 11, wherein the adhesive polymer layer comprises 20 to 45 % in weight of elastomer.

20 13. Metal laminate according to any of claims 1 to 12, wherein the adhesive polymer layer also comprises 0.5 to 10 % in weight of a copolymer of styrene and an unsaturated carboxylic acid and/or a derivative thereof.

14. Metal laminate according to claim 13, wherein the adhesive polymer layer comprises a styrene- maleic acid anhydride copolymer.

25 15. Metal laminate according to any of claims 1 to 14, wherein the adhesive polymer layer further comprises 0.1 to 5 % in weight of an epoxy resin.

16. Metal laminate according to any of claims 1 to 15, wherein the organosilane compound is chosen from vinylalcoxysilanes, dialcoxysilanes, trialcoxysilanes or tetraalcoxysilanes

5 17. Metal laminate according to any of claims 1 to 16, wherein the adhesive polymer layer further comprises a flame retardant agent.

18. Metal laminate according to any of claims 1 to 17, wherein the adhesive polymer has a gel content of at least 15 % in weight.

10 19. Metal laminate according to claim 18, wherein the adhesive polymer has a gel content of at least 30 % in weight.

15 20. Metal laminate according to any of claims 1 to 19, wherein the polymer layer comprises an intermediate layer of cross-linked non-grafted polyethylene.

21. Process for the manufacture of a metal laminate according to any of claims 1 to 20 comprising the steps consisting in :

- 20
- a. Providing a first and a second metal sheet;
  - b. Applying a polymer composition comprising cross-linked polyethylene or a copolymer thereof, co-grafted with a silane compound and with an unsaturated carboxylic acid and/or a derivative thereof onto the first metal sheet;
  - 25 c. Applying the second metal sheet onto the polymer layer applied onto the first metal sheet to obtain a metal laminate; and
  - d. Heating the metal laminate to complete the adhesion.